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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 2309/OK299

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Satoshi MIZUTANI; Kouichi ^{YAMAKI}~~YMAKI~~; Yuuki NODA

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: HYGIENIC ABSORBENT ARTICLE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is

not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

A concise explanation of the relevance of the foreign language document (JP 5-33721) as required by 37 CFR 1.98 is attached. On information and belief, this concise explanation is from the point of view of that person identified in 37 CFR 1.56 who is most familiar with the subject matter.

This submission is being filed concurrently with the application.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of such document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not

initialed.

It is believed that no fee is due. However, if the Commissioner determines that a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above deposit account for any deficiency.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 13, 2002



Marie L. Collazo
Registration No. 44,085

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LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)

DOCKET NO.: 2309/OK299 SERIAL NO: Not Yet Assigned
APPLICANT: Satoshi MIZUTANI FILING DATE: Concurrently Herewith
CONFIRMATION NO:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>*EXAMINER</u> <u>INITIALS</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u> <u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>SUBCLASS</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>*EXAMINER</u> <u>INITIALS</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u> <u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>SUBCLASS</u>	<u>TRANSLATION</u> <u>YES</u> <u>NO</u>
	1. 5-33721	May 1993	Japan	A61F	13/15	NO
	2. 96/05790	Feb. 1996	PCT	A61F	13/15	
	3. 10/504486	May 1998	Japan	A61F	13/15	NO

OTHER REFERENCES**(INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)**

*EXAMINER
INITIALS

EXAMINER: _____

DATE CONSIDERED: _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.